THE RICE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
408 Division Street, Northfield, MN 55057

2003 Spring Issue

The Rice County Genealogical Society meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday on even months at the Rice County Historical Society Museum, 1814 NW 2nd Avenue, Faribault, and on odd months in the Marston Headley Research Room in the lower level of the Northfield Historical Society Building, 408 Division Street, Northfield. Meetings are suspended during June, July and August.

MEETING DATES:

Feb. 18, 2003	Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Dues for 2003. Work on Newsletter.
Mar. 18, 2003	Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Dues for 2003. Start inventory & catalog of our holdings. Bring items for the Spring 2003 Newsletter.
Apr. 15, 2003	Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Work on identification of negatives donated to the Rice County Historical Society by the Faribault Daily News.
May 20, 2003	Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Spring 2003 Newsletter for printing and mailing.
June-July-Aug.	No meetings. May gather to work on the inventory or the negative identification projects. Sept. meeting will be in Northfield beginning at 2:00.

OFFICERS:
President.....Veronica Grant
Vice President.....Audrey DeMann
Acting Secretary.....Dorothy Herkenratt
Treasurer.....Dorothy Herkenratt

Dues are for the calendar year and are $10 for an individual and $12 for a family. The newsletter is included with membership

Members currently are actively working on their family lines and in searching out the history of those who came to live in or who passed through Rice County. When we have queries from others not in our family lines who seek help on their research projects, we refer them to two of our current members who are willing to do research for a fee. To secure more information on services they offer and their fee schedules, please contact them directly: Norma Gilbertson, 808 E. 5th St., Northfield, MN 55057 Ph.: 507-664-9591 e.mail: njgilber@rconnect.com
Luana Bauer, 42581 20th Ave., Nerstrand, MN 55053 Ph.: 507-789-6541 e.mail: lmbau@clear.lakes.com

SAVE THOSE OLD FAMILY LETTERS

The following shows why it is so important to save those old family letters. This one gives some of the history of what is termed "The Drake Farm" on the National Register of Historic Sites. The farm was called "Shady Lane Farm" and is situated near the junction of County Road 1 and State Highway #246 in Bridgewater Township near Northfield, MN. This letter is from Agnes Drake Wirtz (1870-1970) in answer to some questions posed by Ila Drake Herkenratt (1896-1952) regarding the building of the brick home with the addition of the frame section moved from the log home to the west on the hill. The brick of the "new" brick home were made on the Drake farm just to the south and a bit west of the building site of the new home. (This is one in a series of letters from Aunt Agnes.)

Knox Tues May 7. '40
Dear Ila -

This is a rainy day - and so I'm going to write a letter or two. I did my ironing and have just finished the mending. We are so glad of the rain, after so many drouth stricken years. Have had about three inches of rain fall in the last two weeks and it seems wonderful, but stays very cold and everything is backward, seeding very late, but I believe most of the wheat is in. There were such snow banks on my garden and now all this rain, don't know when it can be plowed. But I have a patch I got spaded up and so planted a few things for early. I've done no house cleaning yet but want to get to work at it now. Must get someone to do most of it, as that old rheumatism left one arm in bad shape. I use it but can't get it up, very hard to fix my hair and I can't get it behind me - makes difficult dressing. I have been trying chiropractic treatments - can go to Rugby, 20 miles west between trains. Have been to two different dentists and they say the remainder of my teeth should come out, so I suppose that is next. Hope I get relief in some way. Otherwise, we are both well.

Now to answer some of your questions - if I could talk to you would be easier. You've heard of the old lady probably who kept data on what events passed by linking them up with the children's ages. Well, that is the only way I can get at it. Father (Edwin Sumner Drake 1828-1909) built that north barn I believe the next year after they moved down on the place. There was an old log barn stood just south of the well, when they came. And I've heard them say many times they moved down the year before Amaret (Drake Whittier (1864-1935) was born, which would be 1863 and the barn must have been built in '64 or '65. Amaret and the little brother (Charles Sumner Drake 1866-1867) who died were both born in the old log house - then Father built the first frame part to the north of the log house and Sumner (Sumner Ernest Drake 1867-1925) and I were both born in the room which is now your kitchen. The door from it opened into the log room - not as it is now. So it was built about '67 as "dadie" (Robert) died in Jan. '67 and Sumner was born the next fall. The back part--Father built for Grandma Drake (Ruth Bon Drake [Mrs. Joseph Drake] 1788-1882) to have for her room, and it was later but I don't know just when. It stood at the south end of the log house and has been turned - what is now south was to the east. Will (Will Elmer Drake 1874-1937) was born in that room. The brick house was built since I can remember - in 1884. I remember everything about the old house very distinctly as my childhood was spent there. I don't remember about the Olson farm - was never in the house. It has been the same I think since I remember. You know Grandpa Drake (Joseph Drake 1793-1857) had used his right to file on land, in Wisconsin, so couldn't take land, but Ike Lenout was a young man without funds to prove up his land so Grandfather paid his expenses & took the 80 acres as payment. That's why it's just an 80. Later on Father bought 3 forties over to the east--beyond the bluff, but had to let them go when he lost so much in the mill deal (the Cascade Mill). Ada (Drake Babcock) was right about when they came out I think. You see Father and Mother didn't come with the others but with old Dr. & Mrs. Schofield, & that is why Father's claim wasn't next to the others (the Drakes). What was Joe's (Joseph Reeves Drake 1793-1857) farm was the Schofield claim - later sold to Mr. Spriggs (Joseph Spriggs 1822-1908) & was really Lina's. (Selina Spriggs Drake [Mrs. Joseph Edwin Drake 1859-1933]) Joe owned an eighty of Father's original claim & the house stood across the road from Chester's. (Job Chester, Sr. 1818-1897) I've been in it many times. When Joe got married, Father gave it to him & it was Joe & Lina's first home & several of the children were born there. (Another mistake in Ada's [Ada Drake Babcock (Mrs. Geo. C. Babcock) 1855-1944] paper.)

Well I am glad someone is interested in the family history. Too bad you didn't ask me these things before. Even this last visit to Elsie (Mary Elsie Drake Bullock 1862-1939) I could have asked or verified things. Being older she could have told more surely. There are many things I could tell you about which its useless to try to write. I wonder if your father didn't leave the place in that way purposely for fear your mother would try to sell it - as she never liked it. I always felt it was much nicer to live out like that than right in town. So close one can go in for anything - anytime. Ila I have a few little keepsakes I am going to pass on sometime and I was thinking of one I would like to give you or Margaret (Margaret Herkenratt Wood 1922-1993) if she cared for it. When I went to visit at Aunt Mary Bunday's (Mary Melissa Drake Bunday [Mrs. Daniel Bunday] 1830-1902) she gave me a watch chain that she said my father gave her one time when they were young folks at home. It's real value isn't much I

REPRINT of Dorothy Chester Herkenratt's *Rice Gleanings* section for the Winter '04 issue of the *Rice County Historian,* a publication of the Rice County Historical Society,1814 NW 2nd Avenue, Faribault, MN

RICE GLEANINGS

From The Rice County Genealogical Society

The Rice County Genealogical Society meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday on even months at the Rice County Historical Society Museum and on odd months in the lower level of the Northfield Historical Society Building, 408 Division Street, Northfield. Meetings are suspended during June, July and August. Contact persons: Veronica Grant at 507-645-8960 or Dorothy Herkenratt at 507-334-3481.

Dues currently are $10 for an individual and $12 for a family and are for the calendar year.

Nine attended the annual Christmas luncheon and get-together at The Depot on December 19th. Following the party, a short meeting was held at the Rice County Historical Society Museum where the following were elected to hold office for 2004:

President	Veronica Grant
Vice President	Audrey DeMann
Treasurer and Acting Secretary	Dorothy Herkenratt.

Our group welcomes anyone who would like to attend our meetings to learn more about our work with genealogy. We concentrate mainly on our family lines in Rice County, but also research from where our families originally came, when they arrived in America, their migration routes, and stories that have been handed down through the generations. Many in our group find that individuals and families coming to Rice County traveled together or followed those who had already settled here, and we find some lines merging a few generations back, thus we can exchange information, stories and tips for further research avenues. Dedicated researchers at the Rice County Historical Society supplement the work that we do in our Genealogical Society and our group uses the genealogical library there as well as ours in the Marston Headley Research Room at the Northfield Historical Society Museum. We also use materials in the Buckham Memorial Library in Faribault, the Northfield Public Library's Pye Room, various churches in the area, some township records and those found at the Rice County Government Center. In addition, we occasionally make trips in and out of the county if some of our members desire to do joint research at some specific repository. The camaraderie, fellowship and common interests center our small group and we would be happy to welcome others who would enjoy what we have to offer. We are willing to help those new to genealogy learn how to research and record information.

In the Spring 2004 issue of *Rice Gleanings* we will be including an updated listing of the township and city clerks and the addresses and phone numbers at which they can be reached. We also try to keep an up-to-date listing of cemetery contact persons and would welcome being informed of changes as they occur. One of our members, Audrey DeMann, has been including a page listing births and a page listing deaths in each issue that she copies from the early records found at the Rice County Government Center. The Minnesota Genealogical Society's *MGS Newsletter* has mentioned the value of her research.

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article on value of letters - continued from previous page

imagine - just as a keepsake. She said "Agnes you are the only one of Sumner's girls to come & see me so I am going to give this to you, as I have no girls to leave it to." & she told me about it. So I thought another "Sumner's" daughter or granddaughter ought to get it. It must be nearly 100 yrs. old. I was named for Grandma Drake you know (Ruth) at her request. And was given some keepsakes of hers at her death which I will pass on to some of the others.

Well I owe so many more letters I better try to get off a few lines to others. I hear from Bernice quite regularly. Write her sometime, Ila, she is lonely. We can hardly realize just how much we will miss our dear ones until they are gone. Sometimes I can hardly believe they <u>are</u> all gone. Hope you have a prosperous year. Love to you all -

Aunt Agnes

If there is anything else I can help you about would be glad to do so.

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NOSTALGIC NORTHFIELD faces & places Presented by the Northfield News
ISBN: 1-891395-87-4 Published by Pediment Publishing, a division of The Pediment Group, Inc., Vancouver, WA

The following corrections for photos from the Herkenratt Family Archives are from Dorothy Chester Herkenratt (Mrs. Richard M. Herkenratt) who submitted them:

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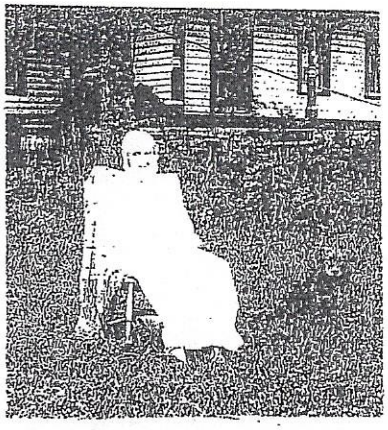
The photo of the old lady in the polkadot dress has been misidentified: The caption should read "Amelia Perrin Chester Fretter, born 10 January 1790 in Naseby, Northamptonshire, England and died 3 May 1877 in Bridgewater,Twp., Rice Co., MN and mother of Job Chester, Sr., a Territorial Pioneer in Rice County. She was the mother of five Chesters: Wm. Charles, John Cooke, Job J., Reuben and Matilda (Blanchette/ Cheney) and two Fretters: Elizabeth "Betsy" (Cheney) and Lucy (Spriggs). Amelia's first husband was William Chester who was born and died in Naseby and her second was John Fretter, also from England and who with Amelia and children came to America in 1832. "

The caption under the misidentified photo goes with the submitted but unpublished photo shown here: "Anne Maria Jeffries Chester (Mrs. Job Chester, Sr.) born 26 May 1816 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and died 12 Nov. 1912 Bridgewater Twp., Rice Co., MN. She was the first white woman to live in Bridgewater Twp. in spring of 1854. The photo was taken when Anne was over 95 years in the summer of 1912 and sitting in front of her home on the original homestead. She was the mother of five: Job Jeffries, William Frederick, Anne Maria, Edward Clarence (Ned) and Mary Chester. "



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The caption under the photo of The Church of the Holy Cross, Dundas should read: "Photo circa 1870 of The Church of the Holy Cross in Dundas. Built from stone and timbers taken from the bluff on property belonging to the John Chester family, and an exact replica of one in Goodmanham, Yorkshire, England with exception of an opening by the credence table omitted because of cold MN winters."

The following identification of persons in the Dundas baseball team, 1929 photo on page 79 submitted by Carol Van Sickle is from Audrey Robbie DeMann (Mrs. Charles E.) and Carol:

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Front row (left to right): George "Hack" Harris, Leo Kolb, Warren "Kais" McKinnon, "Shorty" Kwiatkoske, William "Bus" McKinnon and Sam Freeman.
Back row (left to right): Alymer Code, unknown, Charles Butterfield, George Zaner, Carl (or Ted?) Meinke, Walter Thielbar and Cliff Thielbar.

INDEX OF BIRTH RECORD of RICE Co. MN.
FIRST 25 ENTRIES FOR T, U, V, W.

THOMAS, EMMA	SEPT.	01	1870
TOWN, —	OCT.	29	1870
THURNEAU, PAULINE MARIA S.	JUNE	21	1870
TATGE, —	APRIL	29	1870
THOMPSON, CLARA	JUNE	28	1870
THOMAS, ARNOLD	AUG.	28	1870
TRALLE, AUGUST WILLIAM	JAN.	11	1870
TRIPP, EDITH LUCY	MAR.	28	1870
TINNEY, BERTHA G.	JUNE	30	1870
THORSON, ELMER HAROLD	DEC.	13	1870
TEMPLE, —	NOV.	16	1870
TAPE, EDITH E.	APR.	09	1870
TEMPLE, —	JUNE	27	1870
THOM, PETER	FEB.	10	1871
TSCHANN, MARY	JUNE	09	1871
THOMPSON, MATILDA	SEPT.	13	1871
TUPY, JOSEPH	MAY	29	1871
TRENDA, VENCIL	JULY	04	1871
TRENDA, MARY	OCT.	10	1871
TRINKA, THOMAS	OCT.	23	1871
TRINKA, JOSEPH	DEC.	18	1871
TRINKA, BARBARA	DEC.	18	1871
TREPP, —	DEC.	13	1871
TREPP, GEORGE ARTHUR	MAY	31	1871
THOMAS, LENA	FEB.	23	1872

VARLEY, DAVID PATRICK	MAR.	01	1870
VARLEY, BRIDGET	JULY	12	1870
VOS, MARY	FEB.	25	1870
VANEATON, CHRISTIANA	MAR.	04	1870
VAIL, THOMAS J.	NOV.	01	1870
VAUX, AUGUSTUS	JAN.	11	1870
VEIRKANT, BARBARA MARTHA	JUNE	26	1870
VORANN, MICHAEL	NOV.	30	1871
VOGLI, CHARLES	OCT.	06	1871
VANETTER, —	NOV.	30	1871
VAN SAUN, MELISS A.	APR.	01	1871
VALEK, ADELBERT	APR.	03	1871
VARLEY, THOMAS	APR.	01	1872
VAIL, ISAAC	OCT.	05	1872
VANEATON, JAMES	SEPT.	10	1872
VIERKANT, —	MAR.	22	1872
VOLTZ, MAY E.	AUG.	13	1872
VILSMEYER, MARCUS	JUNE	26	1872
VOS, HENRY	FEB.	09	1873
VOGLE, KATE	NOV.	25	1873
VANSELOUS, ROBERT D.	AUG.	08	1873
VOGELSBURG, ANTOINE JOSIE	NOV.	10	1873
VIERKANT, MINE SOPHIA	JAN.	08	1874
VANEATON, EFF M.	JULY	28	1874
VALEK, KATY	SEPT.	22	1874

UPHAM, —	AUG.	30	1870
ULRIC, —	DEC.	21	1872
UPTEGARD, NETTY JANE	MAY	-	1873
UBRICK, HENRY	DEC.	21	1873
UHL, ALFRED WESLEY	JULY	20	1873
UBRICK, AUGUSTA	JULY	04	1874
UGGEN, FREDERICKA	SEPT.	10	1875
UNNAMED	OCT.	26	1875
UNNAMED	MAR.	14	1875
UTTER, GRACE G.	OCT.	11	1876
UBRECH, MARY	SEPT.	25	1875
UNNAMED	APR.	01	1876
UNNAMED, BRIDGET A.	APR.	26	1877
UGGEN, MARY ANEITE	MAR.	04	1877
UNDERDAHL, AMEY	MAY	09	1877
UNDERDAHL, ELLEN	MAR.	06	1878
UBRICH, ANNIE	SEPT.	06	1878
UGGEN, OSCAR	OCT.	23	1878
UREVIG, E. O.	NOV.	13	1879
UPHAM, —	JULY	15	1879
ULSTAD, —	JUNE	05	1880
UGGEN, ALBERT	OCT.	10	1880
UNDERDAHL, JOSEPH	MAR.	18	1880
UNDERDAHL, ELLING	NOV.	06 or 16	1880
UBRECHT, —	AUG.	29	1880

WICHAEHM, —	OCT.	06	1870
WRIGHT	NOV.	30	1870
WEATHERSON, CHARLES EDKIN	DEC.	29	1870
WHEELER, MARY	FEB.	27	1870
WALES, MAUDE	APR.	14	1870
WOLCOTT, ADDIE MARY	APR.	09	1870
WEINBERGER, FRANK S.	MAY	08	1870
WAIR, HENRY J.	MAR.	24	1870
WELD, OLIVER	JULY	06	1870
WILEY, FRED SEXTON	SEPT.	07	1870
WOODWORTH, LUCY	MAR.	20	1870
WHITTIER, THERESA BLANCH	JUNE	13	1870
WOODMAN, EMILY	AUG.	01	1870
WATSON, CHARLES ELLIOTT	SEPT.	10	1870
WILSON, LORENA	OCT.	21	1870
WARD, —	APR.	05	1870
WILLIAMS, ESTELLA IRENE	FEB.	01	1870
WABER, —	MAY	19	1870
WOLFE, MARGARETTE	MAR.	25	1870
WILKOWSKE, —	NOV.	05	1870
WILKOWSKI, AUGUSTA	AUG.	24	1870
WARD, ANDREW	JUNE	18	1871
WEATHERSTON, JESSIE JANE	SEPT.	12	1871
WILLIAMS, ROSA	SEPT.	01	1871
WATSON, —	OCT.	08	1871

INDEX of DEATH RECORD of RICE Co. MN.
FIRST 25 ENTRIES FOR T, U, V, W.

TURNER, TERRESA	AUG.	13	1870
TRIPP, EDITH	APR.	26	1870
TRIPP, AGNES	MAY	10	1870
TRENCH, L.	SEPT.	21	1870
TAYLOR, ANNA B.	JAN.	18	1870
TEMPLE, MARY	JUNE	29	1870
TEMPLE, ——	JUNE	29	1871
THORP WILLIAM	FEB.	05	1871
THOMPSON, S.	OCT.	08	1871
THOMPSON, HENRY	NOV.	10	1871
TRENDA, MARY	NOV.	04	1870
TUTHILL, THOMAS S.	OCT.	14	1872
TYRHOLM, ANNA M.	FEB.	28	1872
TRACY, JOHANNA	OCT.	28	1872
THOMAS, ELIZABETH	AUG.	18	1873
TAYLOR, SUSAN R.	July	24	1873
TAYLOR, SUSIE	SEPT.	23	1873
THOMAS, JACOB	APR.	—	1873
THOMAS, SUSANNA	MCH.	—	1873
TOWER, GEORGIA W.	JUNE	14	1873
TOWER, CHARLES JOHN	JUNE	04	1873
TURNER, MARTHA	NOV.	21	1873
TRIPP, ROBERT L.	DEC.	22	1873
TIERNEY, DAVID	FEB.	16	1873
TRINKA, FRANK	APR.	18	1873

VOSS, ELISA	OCT.	17	1870
VEBLIN, OSCAR WILLIAM	AUG.	27	1871
VANATTER, CHAS. B.	NOV.	29	1871
VANOSDEL, ELIZABETH	MCH.	25	1872
VILSMIER, HENRY	APR.	08	1873
VEEH, GEORGE	FEB.	28	1873
VIERKANT, JOHN HENRY	SEPT.	15	1873
VAUGHN, THOMPSON	JUNE	18	1874
VOX, CLARA ELLA	JAN.	31	1875
VOGLE, ROSA	AUG.	19	1876
VANBLARUANE, EMMA C.	NOV.	17	1876
VANSELOUS, DAVID J.	AUG.	23	1876
VOGELSBERGH, FRANK J.	MCH.	05	1876
VANATTEN, ELLA	July	19	1876
VANSELOUS, Solomon A.	MCH.	17	1877
VITA, JOSEPH	MCH.	28	1877
VAUGH, ABRAM	July	20	1877
VARLEY, OWEN	July	01	1878
VANSELOUS, LARSON	SEPT.	29	1878
VOGELSBERG, A.	DEC.	13	1878
VITA, JOHN	APR.	27	1879
VENELL, MARIAN M.	MCH.	11	1880
VANSELOUS, CORNELIA	SEPT.	20	1880
VARLEY, EDWARD	MAY	08	1880
VAIL, DELLA	SEPT.	27	1880

UPHAM	SEPT.	19	1870
UNKNOWN	July	21	1873
	NOV.	15	1875
	OCT.	12	1876
	OCT.	07	1876
	JUNE	04	1876
	JUNE	17	1876
	DEC.	02	1876
	MCH.	08	1877
	MCH.	08	1877
	APR.	10	1878
	MAY	05	1878
	APR.	03	1878
	APR.	15	1878
	DEC.	20	1878
	NOV.	23	1879
	MAY	16	1879
	MAR.	01	1879
	DEC.	24	1879
	FEB.	03	1879
	JUNE	17	1881
	OCT.	23	1880
UNKNOWN	FEB.	24	1881
ULRICH, JOSEPH	NOV.	23	1880
THE END IN THIS BOOK			

WARNER, RACHEL	July	21	1870
WELLS, JOHN	DEC.	19	1870
WALKENHAUR, HENRY	DEC.	10	1870
WILHELM, HENRY F.	JUNE	08	1870
WELD, HARRIET J.	AUG.	03	1870
WADDICK, LEWIS	NOV.	04	1870
WILLIAMS, FRANK	FEB.	—	1870
WILLIAMS, SARAH	MAY	03	1870
WATSON, M. C.	MAR.	19	1870
WHITFORD, HIRAM G.	July	30	1870
WEBSTER, SAMUEL S.	MAY	11	1871
WORMWOOD, AMANDA	APR.	26	1871
WEATHERSTON, ——	SEPT.	03	1871
WRIGHT, ALICE MAY	July	15	1871
WOOD, ANN AMELIA	APR.	26	1871
WADDICK, MITCHELL	MCH.	21	1871
WINEFRED, H.	SEPT.	04	1872
WARD, SILAS A.	MAY	27	1872
WILLIAMS, ——	NOV.	28	1872
WALROD, GEORGE	JUNE	01	1872
WITT, HENRY	July	16	1872
WOOD, HARRIET	July	23	1872
WOOSTER, GEORGE W.	OCT.	23	1872
WEATHERSTON, WILLIAM	MAR.	29	1872
WRIGHT, ALBERT L.	JUNE	16	1872

2004 LIST OF TOWNSHIP CLERKS IN RICE COUNTY:

TOWNSHIP:	NAME OF CLERK:	ADDRESS:			PHONE
Bridgewater	Mike Piper	5340 124th Ct. East	Northfield	55057	507-645-9295
Cannon City	Dale Borgstahl	18221 Cabot Ave.	Faribault	55021	507-334-9090
Erin	Sharon Kaisershot	11560 Kanabec Trail	Montgomery	56069	507-364-5537
Forest	Stan Burmeister	13591 Fox Lake Trail	Faribault	55021	507-334-7264
Morristown	Pamela Wagner	10461 Jacobson Path	Morristown	55052	507-685-2212
Northfield	Marjorie Randolph	11731 90th St. East	Northfield	55057	507-645-6079
Richland	David V. Derscheid	26300 Goodhue Ave.	Kenyon	55946	507-789-6654
Shieldsville	Jennifer Murphy	9742 Dodd Road	Kilkenny	56052	507-334-8092
Walcott	Benet Freund	4311 240th St. East	Faribault	55021	507-334-8655
Warsaw	Orville Wegner	1381 250th St. West	Faribault	55021	507-334-4591
Webster	Arnold Pavek	6510 30th St. West	Elko	55020	952-652-2853
Wells	Marlene E. Pohl	15687 Dover Trail	Faribault	55021	507-332-8236
Wheatland	Clarence L. Salaba	9376 60th St. West	Lonsdale	55046	507-744-2274
Wheeling	Bill Bonde	12085 Nerstrand Blvd.	Nerstrand	55053	507-789-6717

2004 LIST OF CITY CLERKS IN RICE COUNTY:

CITY:	NAME OF CLERK:	ADDRESS:			PHONE
Dennison	Dawn Olson	37622 Goodhue Ave. P. O. Box 56	Dennison	55018	507-645-7732
Dundas	Linda Ripka	216 Railway St. No. P. O. Box 70	Dundas	55019	507-645-2852
Faribault	Lorri Smith	208 1st Ave. NW	Faribault	55021	507-334-2222
Lonsdale	Neil L. Jensen	115 Alabama St. SW P. O. Box 357	Lonsdale	55046	507-744-2327
Morristown	Virginia Schmidtke	P. O. Box 362	Morristown	55052	507-685-2302
Nerstrand	Richard L. Gabbert	221 Main St. P. O. Box 161	Nerstrand	55053	507-332-8000
Northfield	Karl Huber, Jr.	801 Washington St.	Northfield	55057	507-645-8833

NOTICE: Please remember that meetings are discontinued during June, July and August. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the president, Veronica Grant, and members will be notified.

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Buried veterans records now on Web: (from Faribault Daily News, Wednesday, April 14, 2004)
WASHINGTON (AP) ---- Sally Naporlee turned to the Department of Veterans Affairs to find out more about her grandfather, who served during World War I.

After a few weeks wait for a response, Naporlee learned from the VA that Carmelo Castorina is buried at Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale, N.Y. Unexpectedly, she also learned from VA that her grandmother is buried with him, a privilege extended to verterans' spouses.

VA has made it easier and faster for the public to get answers about family history, old war buddies or famous war heroes. The agency put on the Web 3.2 million records for veterans buried at 120 national cemeteries since the Civil War.

The VA's Nationwide Gravesite Locator, at http://www.cem.va.gov, also has records for some state veterans cemeteries and burials in Arlington National Cemetery since 1999.

Joe Nosari, VA's deputy chief information officer for Memorial Affairs, said the records used to be on paper and microfilm. Private companies have put some of the information online and charged for it, but the VA information is free, he said.

Naporlee, of Spokane, Wash., also learned her grandfather served with the Army's 161 DB unit, enlisting June 24, 1918. He was honorably discharged December 17, 1918.

The VA's gravesite navigator includes names, dates of birth and death, military service dates, service branch and rant if known, cemetery information and grave location in the cemetery. The VA will withhold some information, such as next of kin, for privacy purposes.

The site will be updated daily. Annually, about 80,000 veterans are buried at national cemeteries.

The VA also hopes to add records for veterans whose families requested grave markers from the VA. Those markers may go to private cemeteries of cemeteries overseas.

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The Northfield Historical Society's new executive director is Mark Fagerwick who brings 21 years of experience in business development, marketing and communications to the Society.

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We are sorry to report Elizabeth Jenkins is no longer the secretary with the Rice County Historical Society Museum as her husband was selected for advancement in the western states. Her cheerful greeting and helpful assistance will be greatly missed.

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We have welcomed two new members since we last published. They are Harriet Berg of 122 Demont Ave. E., #166, St. Paul, MN 55117. Harriet is a niece of Lillie Clara Berg, author of *Early Pioneers and Indians of Minnesota and Rice County.* Our second new member is Evonne A. Clay, 1815 Estate Lane, Northfield, MN 55057.

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In accordance with our policy of extending honorary membership status to long-time members who are incapable of participating in meetings, honorary membership has been extended to Rosella Grant and Harriet Hamann. In recognition of and to honor former member John Dalby for his outstanding work on behalf of all genealogists and for freely sharing his expertise, an honorary membership was extended to him. He is the one we all need to thank for those oh-so-useful Dalby Databases.

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We are pleased to announce the receipt of a copy of *The Revised History of James H. McDonnell (1856-1921) and Family* by Thomas E. Ross covering families in the Shieldsville area together with a copy of an e.mail to Norma Gilbertson (one of our members) regarding the book and also a Cross-Reference Sheet dated November 15, 2003, which have been placed in the book. This material has been placed for use in our library in the Marston Headley Research Room at the Northfield Historical Society.

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HELP WANTED

All members are encouraged to place queries with the RCGS. There is no charge and no limit to the numbers of queries per year. They will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received. Please type, print or write clearly. Words should be written in full to minimize errors. We may at our discretion use some abbreviations. Non-members will be charged a fee of $5 per entry. In addition, we will print group sheets, ancestor charts, pedigree or Ahnentafel (European) charts, and descendant charts for people with Rice County connections - free for members, $2 per sheet for non-members or we will print one free in connection with a non-member query submission. Again, they will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received.

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#1-2003 Norma J. Gilbertson, 808 Fifth St. E., Northfield, MN 55057 Ph: 507-664-9591
e-mail: njgilber@rconnect.com

Norma is still searching for descendants of brothers **Jacob and George Hohl** who lived in Houston Co., MN in 1860. Please contact her as above.

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#6-2003 Dorothy Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault, MN 55021 Ph.: 507-334-3481

Still looking for place in New York state **William Blackmore Taylor** emigrated from to Dundas, Rice Co., MN. He was b. 3 May 1816 Frithelstock Parish, Devonshire, ENG, d. 6 Apr. 1866 in Dundas, Rice Co., MN (drowned in spring flood of Cannon River), m. 6 July 1848 in City of Ottawa, Canada West. **Mary Borthwick** b. 1830 Town of Edinburgh, Scotland, d. 22 Mar. 1907 Dundas, Rice Co., MN. William came from New York to be the Archibald's first millwright when they built the world-famous Archibald Mills in Dundas. He planned and built their first mill as well as helped with others in the territory. Also need month and day of Mary's birth.

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NOTICE: When members have a news item, query, list of lines being searched, or any other notice of interest to the general membership, please give or send the item to Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault 55021 so that it can be included in the Newsletter.

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Norma Gilbertson says the following framed marriage certificate was donated to the Northfield Historical Society Museum [RICE CO.]: "This certifies that Adam Smith and Julia Austin, both of Dakota Co. ... were united in marriage at Cannon Falls [GOODHUE CO.] on the 24th September 1863 ... by William Tanner ... Witnesses: Geo. McKenzie and Wm. P. Tanner." The certificate was copyrighted 1878, M. F. Colton & Son, Stationers, Minneapolis, MN. Note that the copyright date of 1878 is 15 years after the date of the marriage. Contact the Northfield Historical Society Museum if you would like to view the certificate.

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Changes to certificates: (from The Northfield News, Wednesday, February 18, 2004)

ST. PAUL -- Certified Minnesota birth and death certificates are now available in person by going to local registrar offices around the state, because of a statewide electronic vital records system implemented by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

All counties are linked to the MDH database and can provide certified certificates of births occurring in any Minnesota county from 1900 and later, and certified death certificates from 1997 and later. Previously, local registrar offices could provide only certificates for births or deaths that occurred within that county.

Certified birth and death certificates are used for legal purposes such as school enrollment or obtaining a driver's license or a passport. Demonstration of tangible interest is required to obtain a certified birth or death certificate. In addition, access to confidential birth records is restricted.

Requests for certified Minnesota birth certificates from 1900 to present can be made at all local registrar offices in Minnesota. Certified birth certificates from before 1900 can be obtained from the local registrar office in the county where the birth occurred.

Certified death certificates from 1997 to present also are available at all local registrar offices in the state. For deaths that occurred before 1997, records are available from MDH and the local registrar in the county where the death occurred.

The MDH Web site at www.health.state.mnus has a current list of local registrar offices, in addition to the formal application that must be completed in order to request a certified birth or death certificate.

Also available at the Web site are instructions for obtaining certificates, changing a birth record and adding the father's name to the birth record, information regarding birth records after an adoption; and applications that must be completed to obtain these services.

Rice County Genealogical Society
408 Division Street
Northfield, MN 55057

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___ Family $12 per calendar year

___ I would like to make an additional donation of $_____ to help the Society meet its goals.

Please make check payable to and send with this application to:

Rice County Genealogical Society
408 Division Street
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